



Augusta, Oct. 6, 1872.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

Published weekly, except on Sundays and public holidays, at the office of the Maine Farmer, No. 100 North Water street, Augusta, Maine.

Collectors' Notices.

Mr. V. DABNEY will visit Waterville County in October. Mr. S. A. AYER is now canvassing the county of Oxford.

Good and Bad Politics.

Politics, in its higher and nobler sense, is a subject in which we all have a direct personal interest, and consequently is one which claims a share of our attention. By politics in this sense, we mean that department of ethics which has to do with the safety, peace and prosperity of the nation; or in other words, we mean the science of human government. In a country like ours, where all government is subject to the will of the people, it is important that every young man should study to make himself acquainted with its fundamental principles. Without this knowledge no man can expect to vote intelligently, and is liable, at times, to become the dupe of scheming and dishonest men.

In entering upon this study, a young man should be governed by the same motives which prompt him to acquire a knowledge of grammar, philosophy, chemistry or any other of the numerous branches of useful knowledge. His object should be to make himself thoroughly acquainted with the resources of the country, the proper means of maintaining its safety; to understand its rights against foreign control or conquest, the protection of its citizens, and the preservation and improvement of its morals. A person who obtains this knowledge becomes an intelligent elector, and will never prostitute the sacred right of suffrage to mere partisan purposes. When such an one is elevated to office, the chances are that he will perform his duties creditably, because understanding, and which give prominence to their deeds and immortality to their lives. Such politics is closely allied to patriotism, and is always associated with it.

There is a politics without patriotism, but this is politics in its bad sense. It may bear a certain resemblance to the genuine, but it is only that which the base intriguer wears to the pure gold. It needs only to be tested to disclose its spurious character. How many men politicians spring to arms in the hour of our nation's recent peril? Only a precious few, and how few of our country's late defenders are now engaged in the mere business of politics?

We earnestly advise every young man to eschew that bad politics, which leads only to the management of mere party. It is synonymous with trickery and deceit. As a profession it is the most dishonorable, and as a means of livelihood, the most precarious. Compared with it, the wood sawyer's trade becomes elevating, and farm labor glorious. There is something heroic in the life of the woodman and the farmer, and in the excitement and whirlpool of a political campaign, and this is what attracts many of our young men into it.

But the moment a young man enters the arena of politics and resolves to make that his pursuit, that moment he must lay aside all the higher elements of his manhood, become unscrupulous and time serving, else he will soon find himself a victim to the intrigues of the ambitious. We believe that we still have many noble and patriotic statesmen, but they are not found in the class of persons who have just considered. It does not require statesmanship to be a mere politician. A statesman may be a politician, but the country is full of politicians who have never been suspected of being statesmen.

The extension of the commercial spirit into politics has done much to vitiate it. In the early days of the republic there was a laudable ambition to excel in state statesmanship. Now an office is valued only for the opportunities it affords of making a fortune, and the means for obtaining it have grown correspondingly unscrupulous and corrupt. A seat in Congress at the present time, if used according to the opportunities, will make a man rich. Hence the horridness of the present political system, in as long as possible. Monopolies have never so numerous nor so powerful as now. For several years the tendency has been to consolidate and form gigantic corporations—and these corporations are exercising an influence in shaping the policy of legislation, that is the danger of their becoming more powerful than the first settlers.

Men were always venal of office, but they were growing more venal, and this venality extends even to the polls and establishes the commercial value of votes. If this thing is allowed to go on, we may soon expect to see a public policy dictated by the price of the vote of the price of votes in our annual elections, and the cost of procuring the passage of measures through our State and national legislatures.

The lobby system which is now practiced upon State legislatures and the national Congress, might with but little change, be converted into a public policy system, and the whole business of legislation be conducted from a commercial standpoint. This spirit seems to be widely diffused throughout the country, while questions of mere public honor and integrity are of secondary importance to the money profits of an election to office, or the passage of a measure through the legislature.

The business aspect of any great public measure has little or nothing to do with its moral or civilizing influence. The latter is the one thing to the traveling public, but quite another thing in the stock market. In our late civil war, it was one thing to raise recruits to subdue the rebellion, but quite another thing to get government contracts and deal in paper substitutes; the former is the patriotic spirit, the latter the commercial one. Government hardly passes a single measure which does not arouse the commercial spirit and weaken the integrity of business men to use it as a means of personal aggrandizement or of personal gain.

The remedy for this state of things is to return to first principles; to cultivate true patriotism among the people. We must get back to the time when pure love of country was not so much a sentimental folly. We must refuse to be led by men who make politics a profession, and cause the business of legislation to be a mere trade.

Editorial Table.

REMARKS ON THE FIRST MAINE CATTLE MEETING. About two hundred of the surviving members of the First Maine Cavalry met in Augusta, Thursday, at 2 o'clock p.m. in the new hall in Granite Hall, which has been appropriately decorated for the occasion. The meeting was called to order by Major Paul Chaboureaud of Saco, who briefly suggested the object of the gathering. A committee reported the following: President—Gen. J. P. Cilley of Rockland. Vice President—Capt. W. F. Boyd, of Pittsfield. Treasurer—Major Paul Chaboureaud of Saco. Historian—Adjutant E. P. Tobey of Providence.

Corresponding Secretary—Sergeant Major A. Dan of Portland. Recording Secretary—Sergeant L. B. Hill of Augusta.

A committee was appointed on constitution and by-laws and it was decided to adopt the name of "First Maine Cavalry Organization." In the evening at 7-1/2 o'clock Granite Hall was well filled with members of the organization and citizens of Augusta, Gen. J. P. Cilley in the chair. Capt. J. D. Myrick was introduced as orator of the evening. Capt. Myrick received with hearty applause, and delivered a very interesting oration, reviewing the history of the regiment in the field, and the brave deeds of its members. Among the many interesting and brilliant sketches of the regiment, the most prominent was that of the "Pleasant Cove Series," which was the work of the late Major Chaboureaud. The oration was well received, and the meeting adjourned at 10 o'clock.

After paying a just and worthy tribute to the fallen comrades, Capt. Myrick referred to the constitution of the First Maine Cavalry, and the 20th of September, 1865, with the 1st Maine. At the conclusion of his speech the meeting adjourned to Mehan Hall to partake of a collation prepared by the ladies of Augusta, which was gotten up in a style that would reflect credit on the most experienced caterers, the tables being laden with all the luxuries of the season and elegantly decorated with flowers and bouquets, and the occasion enlivened by excellent music from the Augusta Band.

After a short prayer by Rev. Mr. Penny, justice was done to the viands, which being disposed of, letters were read from several officers and members of the regiment expressing regret for their non-attendance, followed by toasts and responses, and a closing song and field sketches. The affair was an unparalleled success long to be remembered by all.

The following letter from Gen. Chamberlain was read at the table and elicited great interest.

BUNSWICK, Sept. 26, 1872.

My dear General:—I had hoped to see you to-night but the surgeons have me again. I know the first Maine well, all your splendid work from Maine to Appomattox. I have done much for the Maine Cavalry, and I am sure you will ever do more.

You may well review your record, and it will be a source of pride to you. You have done much for the Maine Cavalry, and I am sure you will ever do more.

The First Maine Cavalry—Maine made you first, and you made her.

Your friend and comrade, J. C. L. CHAMBERLAIN.

CAPTAIN JOHN D. MYRICK, AUGUSTA.

The meeting broke up at about 11 o'clock with three cheering songs to the ladies for their beautiful collation, and the next morning will take place at Bangor on the date of consolidation of the two regiments about the 26th of September next.

CITY GOSSIP. Major W. S. Hutchins is about to open a law office in Skowhegan. R. M. Mansur has commenced a series of lectures on the Maine Monitor, the first number of which was issued from the press of the Gardner Journal last week. It is nicely got up, and is filled with useful and entertaining matter.

It is hereafter to be published monthly at one dollar a year, and ten cents a copy. He will receive an advance price of one dollar, to every regular subscriber. The Journal says a horse was dumped over a bank last week, near John W. Chase's house, and fell twenty feet, and was thereby cured of spavin, ringbone and leavies.

Some of Kimball's fine carriages sold at auction last week, found their way to this city. Thomas Page, a well known horse dealer, has taken the Maine Monitor, the next number will be taken up by a circular saw. Kate Delaney pleaded guilty to the charge of intoxication Saturday, and not being able to pay the fine and cost, she was committed. Arrangements are being made for a course of lectures here this winter.

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LADY'S FRIEND. Two beautiful and spirited engraving, "The Wishing Well" and "On the Summit of the Jungfrau," embellish the October number of the Ladies' Friend. The illustrations are as elegant as the ladies could desire, while the reading matter is fresh and interesting.

LITTLE'S LIVING AGE. In the number of Little's for the week ending Sept. 21st is begun a new serial story, "The Bargamonters' Family," translated from the Dutch. It promises to be a story of unusual interest. None but first class articles are found in this weekly journal. Published at \$8 a year by Little & Gay, Boston.

IMPROVEMENTS ON THE MAINE CENTRAL. The improvements made on their road by the Maine Central Company this season have been very extensive. Seventy miles of track have been gravelled, twenty-five miles of new iron laid, and five miles more to be laid before snow comes. One hundred and thirty thousand new sleepers have been put down, and one hundred and thirty thousand new ties have been laid. Eighty miles of new fence have been built, and the company now own about seven hundred miles of fence. New depots have been built at East Newport, Wilton and Freeport, and the foundations are laid for the Union depot at Waterville, which is to be of brick 131 by 21 feet, with a high, wide, paved roof over the platforms. A new depot is to be built at Fairfield. Water stations, each with a tank of 15,000 gallons capacity, have been ordered to be built at Burnham, North Belgrade, Lewiston, Brunswick and Dresden, most of them with steam pumps to fill the tanks. A new engine house has been erected at Lewiston, and a new water tank has been placed at that station, at Brunswick and Bangor. The bridges have all received particular attention. That at Skowhegan, 380 feet long, has been rebuilt, the long bridge at Waterville is receiving extensive repairs, that at Kendall's Mills has been strengthened by the addition of arches in all the spans, and the bridge at the junction of the river with the river has been strengthened by the addition of arches in all the spans, and the bridge at the junction of the river with the river has been strengthened by the addition of arches in all the spans.

THE SPRINGMANUFACTURING COMPANY in this city, have engaged the bricks to be burned next season, in the several kilns in the vicinity of Augusta. They propose next season to erect a large factory for the manufacture of iron goods, for which they have the iron taken from one of their factories in Providence. The Messrs. Sprague say that the goods manufactured for their use in Augusta, cost them less than the same class manufactured at any other of their numerous establishments; the difference being equal to a good paying profit. This will make it for their interest to increase their manufacturing facilities here, to the full extent of the capacity of the water power.

MR. N. K. SAWYER, for seventeen years editor and proprietor of the Waterville Free Press, has sold that paper to a stock company consisting of Hon. Eugene Hale, John D. Hobbs, C. S. Whitney, L. A. Emery, and Albert Hopkins, Esqrs. Mr. Sawyer is well known to the profession in Maine, and carries with him to his retirement the hearty wishes of his brethren, for his future happiness and prosperity.

PATENTS. Under date of Sept. 10th patents were issued to the following citizens of Maine:—Daniel F. Brackett of Bangor, for excelsior machine; Hiram B. May of Morrill, for hook for draft chains, whifflores, &c.; Samuel W. Huntington, of Augusta, for scissors; Emile R. Weston of East Corinth, for burnisher for photographs, &c.

SUBSCRIPTIONS. Three subscribers are on the books at Addison and several at East Machias and Jonesboro. The Union advertiser that ship building has been so busy in Washington County for several years, but complains because the business is not so active as in 1866.

For the Maine Farmer.

Temperance Reformation.

Ours is claimed to be the Banner State on Temperance. It may be so; but we think there is great need and scope for raising our standard higher. We have sound and stringent laws upon our statute books, we inaugurate and spread throughout the land, great and glorious reforms; we save many from the drunkard's grave; but we do not do all that we can and ought, as law-abiding citizens and good soldiers, in the great cause of temperance.

Our laws are sufficient to close every ramshackle in the State, but they will never do it till public sentiment demands it. Public sentiment is sleeping under the breath of the people, and only needs a general "rousing up" by a realization of facts in connection with the evils of intemperance, to cause such a demand for the closing up of these foot-holes of devastation.

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